



## EPA R10 Tribal Hot Topics for RTOC - Spring 2013



### National Tribal News

#### EPA's FY14-18 Strategic Plan

The EPA is developing a new FY14-18 Strategic Plan. OCFO requested early input from tribes by May 19, plans to release a draft in July, and will hold teleconferences in August and September. [yosemite.epa.gov/oia/TConsultation.nsf/](http://yosemite.epa.gov/oia/TConsultation.nsf/)

#### Climate Change Adaptation

NC State University and the EPA will host a series of 12 Climate Change Adaptation webinars for states, tribes and local governments in June. Case studies, tools, and solutions will be presented. [climate-adaptation-symposium.org/index.html](http://climate-adaptation-symposium.org/index.html)

#### New GAP Guidance

The EPA expects to finalize the new GAP Guidance and Guidebook in May. AIEO is working to address issues raised in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of consultation and coordination, and is planning to provide training this fall.

### R10 Tribal Program

Sally Thomas: [thomas.sally@epa.gov](mailto:thomas.sally@epa.gov) ; (206) 553-2102

#### R10 FY14 GAP Applications

The deadline for submitting complete Final FY14 GAP application packages to R10 is May 20. Project Officers and Grants Specialists will continue working to process applications and issue awards by October 1.

#### National FY13 GAP Allocation

Regions are expecting FY13 GAP allocations from Headquarters soon. R10 anticipates sufficient funding for all final FY14 GAP applications from tribes. Remaining funds will be applied to Consortia applications, then to Unmet Needs proposals.

#### R10 Tribal Environmental Leaders Summit

The Kalispel Tribe will host the R10 Tribal Environmental Leaders Summit in Spokane, WA October 7-9. Sessions will focus on resource extraction, subsistence resource protection, and EPA-Tribal relations. Register at <http://tels.kalispeltribe.com/>.

### R10 Office of Ecosystems, Tribal and Public Affairs

Katherine Brown: [brown.katherine@epa.gov](mailto:brown.katherine@epa.gov) ; (206) 553-7263

#### Bristol Bay Watershed Assessment

R10 has released a revised Draft Bristol Bay Watershed Assessment and a new Bristol Bay Assessment Fact Sheet. Ongoing consultation activities will continue and comments are invited through May 31. <http://www2.epa.gov/bristolbay>

#### Environmental Justice in Permitting

R10 has completed a Regional Implementation Plan to Promote Meaningful Engagement of Overburdened Communities in Permitting Activities. OEJ has published Actions Regions are Taking and Promising Practices for Applicants- Ways to Engage Communities. [yosemite.epa.gov/R10/ocrej.nsf/Homepage/EJ+Homepage](http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/ocrej.nsf/Homepage/EJ+Homepage)

#### High Priority NEPA and 404 Reviews

R10 has developed spreadsheets that list and summarize large-scale projects considered high priority for NEPA and CWA 404 reviews. They will be used to foster coordination among programs and agencies and shared with RTOC.

### R10 Office of Management Programs

Evelyn Holtzendorf: [holtzendorf.evelyn@epa.gov](mailto:holtzendorf.evelyn@epa.gov) ; (206) 553-6344

#### Annual SAM Registration Required

The Central Contractor Registration (CCR) system was replaced by the System for Award Management (SAM) last year. All organizations must register with SAM annually, and registrations must be current to receive EPA awards. Expired registrations are delaying grant application processing. Update registrations at <https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM>.

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### R10 Office of Environmental Assessment

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Lil Herger: herger.lillian@epa.gov ; (206) 553-1074

#### Support for Fish Consumption Work

OEA is providing technical support for work including the development of ID's fish consumption surveys, review of Seldovia's assessment of Cook Inlet Tribes' subsistence consumption, and the development of ID and WA water quality standards.

#### Climate Change Adaptation Plan

A R10 Climate Change Adaptation Implementation Plan is being developed for submission to Headquarters and the CEQ in June. The Plan identifies the most significant vulnerabilities to and impacts of climate change and identifies existing actions to address them. OEA held 3 webinars in May and will engage tribes to identify additional actions needed in the future.

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### R10 Office of Environmental Cleanup

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Joanne Moore: moore.joanne@epa.gov ; (206) 553-0310

#### Alaska Regional Response Team

The ARRT is developing Guidance for consistency in coordination and consultation with Alaska tribes. A web based survey soliciting tribal feedback, points of contact, and ways to enhance participation was completed this spring.

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### R10 Office of Water and Watersheds

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Bryan Fiedorczyk: fiedorczyk.bryan@epa.gov ; (206) 553-0506

#### WA and ID Water Quality Standards

R10 hosted a meeting with WA tribes and WADOE Director Maia Bellon in April to discuss fish consumption rates and water quality standards. OWW held a call with ID tribes in May to discuss contract negotiations for the ID fish consumption survey.

#### Puget Sound and ID Stormwater Permits

R10 is finalizing a NPDES municipal stormwater discharge permit for Joint Base Lewis-McChord, and will begin work on similar permits for other regulated federal facility operators in the Puget Sound area this summer. Permit development work for regulated municipalities and industrial activities in ID is also underway. Tribes will be invited to consult on these actions.

#### Cook Inlet General Permits for Oil and Gas

R10 offered a Permitting 101 training for Cook Inlet tribes April 10. The EPA and the ADEC held joint public hearings on the Draft Cook Inlet General Permits for Oil and Gas Exploration Activities in federal and state waters April 29-May 2.

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### R10 Office of Air, Waste, and Toxics

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Nancy Helm (Air): helm.nancy@epa.gov ; (206) 553-6908

Fran Stefan (Waste & Toxics): stefan.fran@epa.gov ; (206) 553-6639

#### AK Tribal Air Workgroup

R10 hosted a quarterly Alaska Tribal Air Workgroup call in May. Janet McCabe, Deputy Associate Administrator for OAR, participated. Updates from R10 and Headquarters were shared and AK tribal air quality issues were discussed.

#### R10 Tribal Air Team

UW student Sarah Sanborn completed an internship in May quantifying emissions from residential wood stoves on 12 reservations and exploring mitigation measures. ASU student and Navajo tribal member Michael Halgonnie will explore culturally relevant approaches to outreach air quality issues in tribal communities through an ITEP internship this summer.

#### Hazardous Materials in AK

R10 participated in a meeting with OSWER Associate Administrator Mathy Stanisalus and Yukon River Inter-tribal Watershed Council Director Jon Waterhouse in May to discuss solutions to legacy hazardous materials in AK communities.

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### R10 Office of Compliance and Enforcement

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Don Dossett: dossett.donald@epa.gov ; (206) 553-1783

#### Underground Injection Control

R10 has completed an updated inventory of injection wells in Indian Country. The UIC program works to close wells that threaten drinking water, and offers technical and compliance assistance to all tribal staff.